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EXTRACTS

FROM

LETTERS AND OTHER PIECES,

WRITTEN BY

MARGARET JACKSON,

DURING HER LAST ILLNESS.

PHILADELPHIA:
BENJAMIN & THOMAS KITE,
NO. 20, NORTH THIRD STREET.

1825.

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PHILADELPHIA.

INTRODUCTION.

Margaret Jackson was daughter of Thomas and Biddy Jackson of Edenderry, in the King's County: she died at Moate, in the County of Westmeath, in the prime of life, on the 16th of second month, 1822. Her last illness was of several years' duration, and the lingering progress of the disease was attended with severe bodily suffering. In its earlier stages she passed through distressing mental conflicts, arising from an apprehension of unfitness for the approaching awful change; yet these trials appear to have been permitted in mercy for her refinement—through the Redeemer's love she was brought to a state of peaceful resignation, raised in a remarkable manner above her sufferings, supported under extreme and protracted weakness, and enabled to rejoice in the hope of a glorious inheritance. In this favoured situation she felt a deep

solicitude for the welfare of others, and under the influence thereof she often imparted lively and pathetic counsel to those who visited her:—the sweet impressions that accompanied these communications are still fresh in the memory of some. Nor was it only towards such of her near relatives and friends as were from time to time introduced to her chamber that her affectionate feelings were thus awakened; she earnestly desired that all who suffer the cares of this uncertain world, or its transitory enjoyments, to usurp the chief place in their hearts, might be aroused to a sense of their dangerous situation, and induced to seek first the kingdom of heaven; that, learning of Him who is "meek and lowly of heart," they might, at a time when all human support and consolation are unavailing, experience the fulfilment of His gracious promise, "ye shall find rest unto your souls."

It was during this illness, and chiefly in the more advanced part of it, when altogether deprived of the power of speech,

that the manuscripts were written from which the following pages are selected. Some of them were designed by the writer for individuals to whom they were addressed; but the greater part, it is believed, were intended for more general use, and of these there has been very little omitted. It is hoped the simple language in which her sentiments are conveyed, will not prevent their favourable reception by the reader; and that the circumstances under which they were written, whilst they entitle them to his indulgence, will give them an additional claim to his attention.

LETTERS, *&c.*

To her Sister Anne.

7th of 12th month, 1819.

'My very dear and tender sister Anne, who hast been to me an affectionate attendant through my long-protracted illness, which, no doubt, hath tried thy natural feelings; but thou must be sensible that the arm of Omnipotence must have supported thee, or thou should have long since given up. Mayest thou, my beloved sister, be rewarded for thy kindness to me by Him, who hath seen meet to afflict me with many near trials. Thou hast many times been eye-witness to my very weak state, yet through all, my mind has been for the most part preserved in a good degree of patience and resignation to the Divine will.

'It has at times occurred to me, that I might not be able to disclose my mind so fully to my dearest sister verbally, as I might do by committing at times to paper, the sin-

cere desires I feel for thy everlasting welfare; and may also let thee know a little of my own experience, which has been more circumscribed than I believe it should, if I had been faithful to the convictions of my internal, sure monitor.—Oh! my beloved sister, never stifle its reproofs, but look unto it as thy guide and conductor through time; and such it will prove, if sought after, for it is nothing less than the strivings of the Holy Spirit, to turn our hearts from the evil to which we are naturally prone. Many times, since I have been in part separated from the busy world, have I had cause for deep and silent mourning, that I did not attend more closely to little intimations in my own mind, which would have saved me many bitter reflections on a sick bed, when the most trifling omission in time of health will be brought to our view: and, Oh! what a mercy that we are favoured to see our great unworthiness, and to feel that we have been transgressors: but it is a sad thing to delay the work of repentance till the hour of sickness; and though I trust I have not been guilty of many gross crimes, yet I know I have much need of repentance, and preparation for an inheritance among the blessed, whose robes have been washed and made white in the blood of the dear Son of God, our Saviour and Redeemer, who suffered

the cruel death of the cross, in order to become a propitiation for our sins, and who, when he was reviled, reviled not again, but submitted in all the sufferings he endured, to the will of Him, who sent him into the world, and permitted trials to assail him, hard to flesh and blood to bear—yet he never murmured: and surely, any suffering these poor bodies may have to bear whilst clothed with mortality, is nothing comparable to what our blessed Lord himself passed through for our sakes; our trials in mutability matter little, but, on the contrary, are in mercy dispensed to us, in order to prepare our souls for an entrance into the joyful confines of eternity, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary soul is at rest, and where all sorrow and sighing shall flee away.'

12 mo. 13.—'Several of my kind friends paid me a visit this forenoon.—My mind has been impressed with an awful feeling on hearing of the dissolution of — —, and I am almost ready to wish it should please my Heavenly Father to take me also, if I were prepared, but I fear I am not. Oh! that I may embrace the present opportunity which is in great mercy granted me; I am sensible that I stand in need of preparation for a blessed immortality, and I may with grati-

tude acknowledge, that I *hope* and *believe* in the mercy of my dear Redeemer, who willeth not that any should perish: I trust that I may be admitted even to the lowest mansion in my Heavenly Father's kingdom.

'I have been tried at times during my long illness, with deep poverty of spirit, when I have been almost ready to fear the Almighty had forsaken me; but it was mercifully permitted, to try my faith and love to Him, for whom I trust both are unshaken. I have been at other times amply compensated for this desertion by comfortable, refreshing seasons, wherein I was favoured with a full assurance of the love of my Heavenly Father towards me. Oh! may this be the experience of thee my dearest sister, whom I feel to be the greatest tie I have to this world; but let me tenderly entreat that thou wilt not slight the day of small things —attend closely to the dictates of thy own conscience, which may warn thee to give up some things that may be repugnant to thy nature to part with; but, my dearly beloved Anne, shrink not, be willing to surrender every thing required at thy hand, think nothing too near nor too dear to part with in this world to gain the soul's salvation. What are all the fashions, vanities, and pleasures of this probationary state, when compared with eternal and everlasting felicity? I think

I could make a cheerful exchange, and I feel thankful that my mind is in a good degree weaned from sublunary things. I trust I shall know a total surrender of every thing earthly, that may obstruct the work of righteousness in my soul; which will only produce solid peace, and the effect thereof, "quietness and assurance for ever."'

1820, 1 mo. 5.—'Oh! may our future days be devoted to the service of our Heavenly Father!—for my part, I have not much expectation of my life being prolonged, as I feel my disease making slow, but sure ravages on my weakened constitution, though much has been done to mitigate it. I feel more gratitude than words can express, for all the kindness I have experienced during my long illness.—If Providence be pleased to lengthen my life, I sincerely hope he will enable me to live wholly to serve and advance his great cause in righteousness; for I now see there is more comfort to be felt under his glorious banner, than amidst all the glittering pleasures of the world, which I entreat thee, my dearly beloved sister to relinquish, and place thy hopes on pure religion, which alone will stand thy solace in the hour of trial; and when the time of dissolution arrives, thou wilt then find, when all other comforts fail,

religion will prove thy true comforter;—seek her whilst in health, before all the flattering delusions of this state of mutability. I never before saw the emptiness and folly of the world as I do now; and I wish all would be warned to see the folly of terrestrial enjoyments ere it is too late—before the awful trumpet sound. Oh! that all my acquaintance knew my sentiments now, and would take warning, to make a timely preparation for their final change, which I hope may be well with all: I may truly say, I love the whole of mankind, but more particularly those who espouse the cause of our blessed Redeemer.—It is never too soon to begin a preparation for death—did we ever hear of any who thought on a death bed they had begun to prepare too early?—Oh, no!'

2 mo. 1.—'This day my mind is impressed with an awful feeling, on hearing of another of my friends being laid in the silent grave, — — who, I trust, has made a happy exchange. I feel much for his dear parents in their tried situation.—Those "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." When I think of the slender thread my life appears to be held by, I cannot but marvel at the wonderful kindness of my Heavenly Father, in prolonging it far beyond my friends' or my own expectation, having been, as it were, often

rescued from the jaws of death; but my merciful Saviour has seen meet to try me, in order to purge me from the dross of this wicked world, that I may yet become an inhabitant of the celestial city; which will more than compensate for any suffering on earth.

'I frequently lament the sad devastation and corruption which have crept in, and gained admittance amongst the members of our highly-favoured society, many of whom, in early times, suffered sore and hard persecutions for the cause of truth, over which none of their enemies ever were able to prevail; and it is as powerful now as then to preserve those who espouse it. But how few there are who stand as valiants to support their principles as they should;—how is the testimony neglected and let fall to the ground, by which many have suffered great loss both spiritually and temporally. I have often been grieved to hear and behold the conduct of our young people of both sexes, their dress and address so inconsistent with the profession they make; how can they suppose such can accord with the design of our all-wise Creator, who, I am convinced, would have us separated from the world, that is, the customs and fashions of it, and that we should walk in simplicity and humility as becoming the followers of a crucified Saviour,

who was "meek and lowly in heart," and warned [taught] his disciples to be so, even as he was. I hope all will, ere long, see their error, and come to behold the beauty there is in the unchangeable truth; let us consider how dearly our predecessors purchased the many privileges we now enjoy, and yet, how do we slight them! I think there is a great degradation in being ashamed of our profession, or of appearing singular: such was my idea when in converse with those not of our society, I was not ashamed to address them in a plain way, which I now find the advantage of; I have not to reproach myself with having denied the language of my blessed Redeemer, who died for me as for all mankind, though I have fallen far short of what I should; but we all have a merciful Judge to appear before, who is just in all his ways, and is no respecter of persons;—let us only believe, and we shall have all we require, that our Heavenly Father sees meet we should enjoy.—A firm belief, and an unshaken confidence in his all-sufficiency, are great attainments, and well worthy our seeking.

'Thy truly attached sister,

M. J.'

To a Young Woman, then in a declining state of health.

29th of 7th month, 1820.

'My dear ——,

'I have often enquired of thy weak state, and hear with concern that thou art not getting better, which account I dare say thou receivest of me, having frequently heard of thy kind enquiries after me;—but, my dear young creature, I never expect to be better in this world.—I sincerely wish that we may both be seeking a city, whose builder and maker is God; and let us, I entreat of thee, endeavour to be preparing to become worthy of an entrance therein, as there are none of us but require refinement from the delusive pleasures and corruptions of a vain and deceitful world; and I rejoice to say, that the Almighty has enabled me to see the vanity of all terrestrial enjoyments, and that I must place my future hope in his all-sufficiency, which is alone able to sustain in the midst of every affliction.—He hath in his goodness, seen meet to stain in my view every thing that is contrary to his Divine will; and, Oh! my dear —— may this be thy happy experi-

ence—mayest thou feel a total resignation to the will of thy Heavenly Father, that whether he is pleased to call thee from this state of mutability now, or to prolong thy life, thou mayest be content; and remember, that those who place a confidence in his goodness, and feel a surrender of every gratification, so that they can say with sincerity of heart, "Not my will but thine be done, O Lord," they will never be disappointed. I sincerely hope thy mind may be preserved in a state of quietude and peace, which the world can never deprive thee of; and forget not that we have a merciful Redeemer to plead for us, who is just in all his ways, and is no respecter of persons, but all who fear God and work righteousness will be accepted by him.

'I am too weak to write more, but wished to send thee a token of my love, which I fear can hardly be read.—Believe me thy sincere well wisher,

M. J.'

1820, 7 mo. 30.—On waking in the morning she prayed most fervently for her dear brother and sisters, that they might be preserved from the many temptations of this wicked world; then for all her near and dear

relations, and finally for the whole family of mankind.

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10 mo. 2.—'I have oft mourned when I have reflected on the state of our society, and the departure of many of its youth from first principles, which many of our pious predecessors suffered deeply to maintain, by imprisonment and persecution various ways, even to the loss of life; may they seriously consider the impropriety of deviating from simplicity and plainness in dress and address, as unbecoming the followers of a meek and crucified Saviour, who declared that his kingdom was not of this world. May they be induced to keep within the holy enclosure, which is a hedge of preservation against the many snares that abound in a delusive world, and remember their Creator in the days of their youth, surrendering their wills to the Divine will, to be moulded and fashioned according to his good pleasure—he alone knows what is best. May they return, and that ere long, to the Captain of their salvation, that so our society may yet flourish in primitive purity.

'I have felt dreadful apprehensions for those who continue unregenerate, going on in the wild career of sensual earthly pleasures,

forgetful of hereafter, not considering they know not how soon the trumpet may sound, and summon the soul before the dread tribunal, there to render account of the deeds done in these bodies, given to perform his will.'

About the beginning of the Tenth month, 1820, when enfeebled to an extreme degree by an illness, at that period of more than eighteen months continuance, she received a visit from Nathan Hunt, a minister from America, to whom, as well as to herself, it was rendered memorable by the remarkable extension of divine favour;—on leaving the chamber, he signified to a friend present, that although he had often visited the chambers of the sick, he had never been in such a one as her's, so near did her dwelling appear to be to the source of all good. The following is a copy of a communication made to this friend afterwards at her request:—

"Margaret Jackson sends her dear, very dear love to her valued friend Nathan Hunt and his companion, thinks it would be acceptable to them to hear that her happiness and peace of mind have increased, since she had the peculiar privilege of a visit from

him ; and she sincerely desires they may be favoured to return to their native land with the reward of peace,—sweet peace, which the world cannot give nor take away, and finally receive the crown in store for the righteous.—May we all be permitted to meet within the pearl gates."

A female friend on going into her room on first-day evening, the 15th of 10th month, heard her commenting on several parts of Scripture, concluding with (Psalm xxiii.) "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not "want. He maketh me to lie down in green "pastures, he leadeth me beside the still wa-"ters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth "me in the paths of righteousness for his "name's sake. Yea, though I walk through "the valley of the shadow of death, I will "fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod "and thy staff they comfort me. Thou pre-"parest a table before me in the presence of "mine enemies: thou anointest my head "with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely "goodness and mercy shall follow me all "the days of my life; and I will dwell in "the house of the Lord for ever."

She saw almost all her acquaintances and friends, and exhorted and encouraged them

to love, serve, and trust in the Almighty, and that when they came on a sick bed, they would find the advantage of it; and also expressed a wish, that her young friends would keep to the simplicity of truth in dress and address in their intercourse with the world.

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10 mo. 22.—On some of her cousins coming to see her after meeting, she was enabled, though very weak, to speak to them for a length of time; the particulars cannot be recollected. Her prayer was beyond expression beautiful; and on their leaving her, she took a most affectionate farewel.

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10 mo. 29.—'I wish that all the young people who call themselves Quakers, and who profess to be guided by the unerring Spirit of Truth, knew the concern that has attended my mind, that they should not launch out into gaiety of dress; for though I have no idea that religion consists entirely in a plain exterior, yet this I believe, and am fully convinced, that if our hearts be truly devoted to serve the Lord, and to love him above every thing, our inclinations will not prompt us to follow the superfluous

fashions of the world; the false pleasures of which can never afford us true and solid peace, which the Almighty has promised to give unto his faithful followers, who take up their cross, and live a life of self-denial for his sake, who alone is worthy to be served, honoured, and obeyed. The truth of this I now declare—Marvellous are thy works, O Lord, my Redeemer, and that my soul knoweth right well!

'These deviations have given me much pain of mind both in health and sickness, which has been much increased since laid on a sick bed, on reflecting that many who are members of our highly favoured society, have suffered the temptations of a cunning enemy to prevail in turning them aside from the strait and narrow way, which is the only sure way to eternal happiness, and will alone ensure us peace of mind during our passage through this deceitful and uncertain world. I warn you not to be decking and adorning these poor bodies, which must ere long be consigned to their native clay—let your adorning be that of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price:—consider the good of your immortal souls, which must be either happy or miserable in a never-ending eternity; and the youngest of you know not how soon the summons of death may reach your ears.'

10 mo. 30.—'I should wish such of my young acquaintances as may be inclined, to attend my funeral; perhaps it might impress on their minds serious thoughts of their latter end, which has been my own experience on seeing the remains of a fellow-creature laid in the silent grave. It is with a view of doing good that I invite my young friends, as it matters little to me whether many or few attend the solemn closing scene; but remember that I am young, and cut down in the flower of my youth, which may be the case with some of you, for the old must go, and the young may go. Do not put off the important work of your soul's salvation to a sick bed, for then the pains of body will be sufficient to bear, without the stings of a wounded conscience.—You can never begin too early to prepare for death.—The goodness of Providence has been mercifully and powerfully extended unto me during my sickness, wherein I have known the Divine arm of strength to have been my support under much bodily weakness. May the same good hand support all, both young and old, when they are brought into a similar situation.—Oh! that my soul may praise the Lord for his wonderful condescending goodness to so unworthy and undeserving a creature as I have been!—Do not fail, I entreat you, to return him daily thanks for

the many unmerited blessings he so bountifully dispenseth to transgressing and rebellious children. Choose the Lord for your portion, and the God of Jacob for the lot of your inheritance—place your whole confidence and never distrust his goodness or power—he is able to do all things, there is nothing impossible with God. May you more and more admire the excellency and beauty there is in the unchangeable truth;—suffer not any worldly cares whatever, when health permits, to prevent your punctual attendance of religious meetings for worship and discipline. The performance of this most solemn, sacred and incumbent duty, should never be neglected; and whilst assembled for the purpose of worshipping the Divine Being, endeavour to feel your minds brought into perfect stillness, and released from all corroding thoughts; in which state we can alone approach our Maker with acceptance. "God is a Spirit, and they that "worship him must worship him in spirit "and in truth." The mere showing ourselves amongst others will do little for us, unless we desire to have our minds benefited by going to meetings. Do not let youth, or self-reasoning, excite thoughts of its being time enough to be serious, for those who are truly religious, I believe enjoy the most real comfort and peace of mind. Oh! that none

may be like the foolish virgins, who had no oil in their lamps when the bridegroom came: —be ye all ready, whenever he shall come, to go forth to meet him.

'I strongly recommend a frequent perusal of the Holy Scriptures; they afford instruction and consolation to the seeking mind. The revelation of these sacred truths very much depends on the state of mind in which we read them. I have derived unspeakable advantage, and many times my mind has felt comfort, from an early acquaintance with them, which makes me desirous that all may cherish a partiality for reading them: I well know their real value.—Be frequently in the practice of retiring and waiting on the Lord; seek his counsel as your only sure guide through life; it will enable you to pursue the necessary avocations you may be engaged in.—Live loose to the fleeting things of time; place not your affections on sensual pleasures; let the Almighty Father of the universe, the Saviour and Redeemer of mankind, be your first love; give him the greatest room in your hearts, allow him to come in and abide with you; may you never reject the tender visitations of Divine love, nor spurn the gentle reproofs and admonitions of unerring wisdom, which can only lead you in the right path;—be not ashamed to acknowledge the Lord in all your ways—

remember what he suffered for the sake of all sinners, in order to redeem us from our sinful states.

'It is a source of sweet satisfaction when I reflect, that I never, to my knowledge, was ashamed of behaving plain and simple, or of making use of the plain language to all ranks of people, which my situation in life subjected me to a variety of acquaintance with; and I never found that it lessened my respect in the world, but, on the contrary, am convinced that those who act consistently with our Christian profession, are much more esteemed by the thoughtful part of mankind, and must be more acceptable in the sight of an all-seeing God, from whom nothing can be concealed.'

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10 mo. 31.—'Buy the Truth and sell it not. Oh! that all my dear young friends may be induced to sell all that they have, that is, to relinquish every thing that is contrary to truth, and purchase the pearl of great price.—Believe me, it is well worth your seeking so valuable a possession: I know it now by experience; for I would not resign it for the greatest earthly treasure, nor make an exchange of my present situation for the most exalted one in this world. I humbly

trust, that He who can convert a sinner to a saint is mercifully redeeming my soul from the follies and corruptions of this degenerate world; and when it is fully purified for an entrance into my Redeemer's kingdom, I have no doubt but it will be granted me. I know that my Redeemer lives, and in this alone I trust: he is my only hope, and the dearly beloved of my soul, and to do his will is now my delight—may this be the experience of all my fellow creatures—may the great I Am, who hath been graciously pleased to bring my will into subjection to his own pure will, do the same with all his creatures. Let all be subservient to him who alone knows what is best for us, and orders all things in wisdom. Oh! the goodness and power of redeeming love, which has mercifully weaned my affections from terrestrial things, and placed them on objects far more excellent and superior in their nature. I can now in sincerity say,—Not my will but thine be done. O Lord. I declare these things with a view of encouraging others to place their entire confidence in the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness neither shadow of turning; knowing that I have been a great transgressor, and guilty of many omi-sions; so that when I reflect on the wonderful goodness and tender dealings of a most merciful Saviour, I trust I feel humble and self-abased: —Oh! that I may be as nothing in his

Divine sight, not having any thing but what I have received from his bountiful hand. We are poor, dependent creatures, and unworthy of the least of the Lord's mercies, whose compassions towards us fail not. Oh! that we were humble, meek, and lowly-minded as was our Holy Pattern; who though he could have legions of angels at his command, took upon him the form of a servant. Let your thoughts often recur to the cruel death and sufferings of our dear Saviour, the Lord of life and glory—We must bear the cross and despise the shame —I am convinced there is no way to the crown but by the cross; there is only the one way to the celestial city: our blessed Lord declared himself to be the way, the truth, and the life; may all fully believe on him is my sincere desire. I feel my heart to flow with love to my fellow-creatures; I trust it is that love which proceeds from my Heavenly Father, who is no respecter of persons, but all that fear him, let their name to religion be what it may, all are precious in his divine sight.

'I feel longing desires raised in my heart, that the faithful labourers in the Lord's vineyard may be encouraged to persevere in the glorious work they have engaged in: let none be dismayed, for He who alone can strengthen the weak hands and confirm the

feeble knees, will support those who are bound to be zealous in the cause of truth, and sincerely desire the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders; let those not fear, for the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, that the Lord knoweth them that are his.—Truth is the same yesterday, today, and for ever, and nothing shall ever be able to overcome it.'

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11 mo. 1.—'Let me tenderly entreat those who may not have come under the forming hand of Divine Power, nor submitted to the yoke of Christ, not to delay longer, nor consult with flesh and blood, but to enter into covenant with your great Master, that from the present time you will become labourers in his vineyard. Oh! the reward he gives is great! stand no longer idle—do not put off to the eleventh hour, though we read that they who entered in at that late hour, received as much as those who bore the burden and heat of the day, which is great encouragement; nevertheless, there is much loss and risk attend such as thus put off; we lose more than we are aware of by not serving the Author of our being all our days: I wish I had been more faithful all my life than I was.—Oh! the extent of my Redeem-

er's goodness, no tongue can tell :—My dear friends, reject not, neither slight, the tender visitations of Divine Love, which I believe have been extended to many, lest the sentence applied to Jerusalem shall be again passed ; remember when our dear Lord beheld the city and wept over it: "If thou "hadst known the things which belong unto "thy peace, but now they are hid from thine "eyes," &c. "because thou knewest not the "time of thy visitation." Oh! that it may not be applicable in the present day. And in another part, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem! "thou that killest the prophets, and stonest "them which are sent unto thee, how often "would I have gathered thy children to-"gether, even as a hen gathereth her chickens "under her wings, and ye would not." Have not there been many of the Lord's messengers sent among us of late, and where are the fruits which should result from such labours of love? Many sharp testimonies have been borne to backsliders, and also much invitation for us to return unto the Lord and he will have mercy, and to our God who will abundantly pardon our sins, if we be truly devoted to serve him the remainder of our lives, and sin no more. We should be a separate people, as was designed by Him that first gathered our society: "Come out "from among them, and be ye separate,

"saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean "thing, and I will receive you, and will be "a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons "and daughters." Ah! my dear young friends, in much love and simplicity do I entreat you to separate your minds from the false pleasures and vain gratifications of this fading world; seek that "city which hath "foundations, whose builder and maker is "God."

'My heart is filled with love towards you, my dear friends, and to the whole race of mankind—it knows no bounds, but reaches over sea and land. Earnest desires are raised in me, that none may fall short of an entrance into everlasting rest, prepared for all true believers. Oh! may we be sheep of His pasture, who hath promised there shall be one shepherd and one fold;—Christ is the door, and his sheep hear his voice, and know it, but a stranger they will not follow. Beware of listening to the voice of the enemy, who would lead unwatchful minds astray, and, if possible, persuade us that the Lord, my beloved Saviour, will not do for us as he promises; but I know the enemy to be a liar, and the truth is not in him; he is a cunning, crooked, twining serpent, full of deceit; let none fear or doubt the goodness of a wise God, whose promises are unfailing—they are yea and amen forever. May

the attributes of my Heavenly Parent, whom my soul now adores, be my perpetual theme; whilst I exist I must praise my dear Redeemer, that hath done so much for unworthy me; replenishing my mind from time to time with his pure love. The wonderful goodness and favours I have experienced through my long-protracted illness, must be obvious to all who have seen me—may they ever remember the good Hand that could alone have supported me, and forget not to praise Him who only is worthy. Ah! praise and extol the King of kings and Lord of lords: "Be thou exalted, O God, above the "heavens, let thy glory be above all the "earth;" for thou art a jealous God, and will not give thy glory to another, nor thy praise to graven images. "No man having "put his hand to the plough, and looking "back is fit for the kingdom of God," were the words of our dear and blessed Saviour: let none look back, I entreat you; be encouraged to follow the Captain of your salvation; maintain the warfare of truth and righteousness; fight the good fight of faith, that finally you may obtain the reward of "Well done, thou good and faithful ser-"vant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Employ the several talents which you have been entrusted with; let none be like the wicked servant who hid his Lord's money in

a napkin. Oh! my beloved friends, study to do all you can whilst it is day, for the night cometh wherein none can work. Though we be ever so diligent, we shall have nothing to spare in the great day of account which is hastening on all, when he which is, and was, and is to come, will judge both quick and dead. Oh! that our names may be written in the Lamb's book of life, that we may join the just of all generations made perfect, having their robes washed in the atoning blood of the dear Son of God, who gave his life a ransom for mankind, and maketh intercession for returning sinners, who look unto him for redemption, and fully believe in his all-sufficiency and eternal salvation. "Be-"side me there is no Saviour," saith the Lord: He is a sure refuge in the day of trial—Oh! my soul, art thou sincerely attached to thy Creator—fail not to return him thanksgiving, honour, glory, and praise, that he did not leave thee in thy former corrupt state; cease not to seek a continuance of Divine goodness whilst thou art clothed with mortality, and when the joyful release shall come, then, O my soul! join the heavenly host in eternally singing hallelujah to the Lord God and the Lamb, for ever and for evermore, who alone is worthy.'

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11 mo. 2. Some young people being in the room, whose welfare she seemed interested for, she gave very impressive and interesting advice for their future conduct—to take up a resolution from that night, and not matter appearing singular in the world—to turn from its maxims, its pleasures, and its friendships, and not to be ashamed to appear Quakers; but to honour their Lord and Master, who had said, "Whosoever shall "confess me before men, him shall the Son "of man also confess before the angels of "God; but he that denieth me before men, "shall be denied before the angels of God." —She reminded them, that they had in her a monument of his goodness and mercy, and wonderful loving-kindness: adding,—'I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness. Perhaps you may think of me, and of my words, when I am laid in the silent grave. It is not age that has reduced me to the state you see me in, nearly as dependent as an infant: I am young, as well as you, and you know not how soon it may be your situation. Put not off the work of your immortal soul's salvation—defer it not to a sick bed, I entreat you, when the pains of the body may be sufficient to bear, but serve the Lord in your prime; he loves an early sacrifice, and will never leave nor forsake them

that put their trust and confidence in him. He is good, inexpressibly good, to those that seek him in true humility and nothingness of self.—"To this man will I look, "even to him that is poor and of a contrite "spirit, and trembleth at my word." Come, seek for yourselves, "the heart knoweth his "own bitterness, and a stranger doth not in-"termeddle with his joy."—Taste and see how good the Lord is. I long that you should feel as I do; and you will, perhaps in a greater degree, be favoured with the incomes of divine love, if the fault is not your own. Take up a firm resolve, like good old Joshua, "Choose you this day whom you will serve; "as for me and my house, we will serve the "Lord." The Almighty Judge of quick and dead, whose penetrating eye pierces the inmost recesses of the soul, knows every word and action, sees us as we really are: nothing can be hid from his view. O may we fear to offend! and fear not man who can only kill the body, but fear him who can cast both soul and body into hell:—fear, honour, and obey him, before whom all shall bow, either in judgment or in mercy.'

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11 mo. 3. 'I trust I am at times humbly prostrated before the throne of grace, in

reverent thankfulness to the Author of all our sure mercies, who hath been pleased mercifully to lengthen my days, and enable me to prepare for the solemn change which awaits me. It is an unspeakable privilege to have a time of refinement granted us. How many instances have we of those taken off the stage of life at a very short warning. I have often reflected on the uncertainty of human life: it is lamentable to think of any passing their precious time, as though regardless of this most awful subject. Let us just consider, that in the twinkling of an eye, the soul may be summoned to resign its earthly tenement; and dreadful is the thought if any be unprepared, who have not felt or sought after an interest in their Redeemer whilst health was afforded them;—their situation appears to me truly terrific. I wish, most sincerely, that the minds of the supine may be awakened to consider how far they are fulfilling their duty to an all-wise Creator, who requires no more than his due; and if we do our utmost, we must allow, after all, we are unprofitable servants.

'In much affection, may I endeavour to dissuade those who have given way to an inclination to attend taverns, the theatre, or such like places of dissipation, from continuing thus to waste their precious, fleeting moments. How can any, calling themselves

Quakers, feel acquitted in such practices? I don't think any can, and it is a dangerous thing to stifle conviction, by acting against conscience; beware of this, for then we have no cloak for our sin, and so become the greater transgressors. Every human creature is blest with a sure internal monitor, which reproves for doing wrong, and if attended to, would lead us in the right way at all times. I never was sorry for obeying this true guide, but have felt loss attend disobedience, even in trifling temporal concerns.

'Another way of mis-spending time, in my view, is reading novels, and other evil publications, with which the age abounds. I believe they have injured many minds. Many are the snares which the enemy of man's happiness lays for our destruction; and if constant watchfulness be not preserved, we are in great danger of being entangled thereby.

'I have been induced to mention these things, that are clearly pointed out to me as errors in this time of reflection, hoping they may be taken as intended, being, I trust, the effusions of a heart converted by the operative power of the Word of Truth, breathing love to all my fellow mortals, and interested for their comfort through time and happiness in eternity. Believe me my dear friends, it is well worth taking up the cross

to our inclinations for the sake of our dear Redeemer; think nothing, I entreat you, too near or dear to part with that he shall require at your hands. Oh! may I be totally subject and given up to serve my good Master, in thought, word, and deed, the few remaining days of my life.'

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11 mo. 4.—'Be humble, be patient under suffering, despise not the chastenings of the Lord, neither be weary of his corrections, "for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, "and scourgeth every son whom he receiv- "eth." I rejoice in my affliction, knowing it has been dispensed for my good, and such I hope it will ultimately prove. I trust my soul is anchored in its Creator, the immoveable Rock, against which all the powers of darkness shall never be able to prevail; and that nothing shall separate me from the love I feel in my beloved Saviour and blessed Intercessor, who I believe is now mine, and that I am his. Oh! the blessing of being made a true believer, having unshaken faith and firm hope in the mercies and all-sufficiency of our dear Lord Jesus Christ.'

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11 mo. 5.—'The Lord is a sure refuge in the time of trouble, and a shield unto all who trust in him; he is my only hope, my deliverer, my buckler, and the horn of my salvation. Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are all thy ways, thou King of saints!—the mighty Counsellor, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of peace. To thee only belongeth glory, honour, power, thanksgivings, and praises for evermore, Amen.

'Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his face evermore. Let all the nations of the earth fear and adore the name of the great Jehovah, who is alone worthy.'

'I feel as though I dare not omit relating a few more particulars which have dwelt on my mind with some weight for days past, as regards instructing the tender minds of children, and instilling therein early principles of piety and virtue. I wish all who have the care of youth may be attentive to this important work. With much diffidence and affection, may I attempt to remind parents of the strict care that is necessary, to keep these tender plants cleared of all noxious weeds, which if suffered to take root and grow, may frustrate the designs of the great

Husbandman, who hath entrusted them to your care, for which he will most assuredly require an account at the final day of judgment, when no excuse will be taken for neglected duty. Such a responsible situation as parents hold, demands constant diligence, and frequent seeking for best counsel, to direct and enable to act with acceptance in the sight of our Creator, before whom all must appear, sooner or later. Those who may be encouraging in their infant charge a love for gay attire, I tenderly warn of its dangerous consequences; thereby sowing the seeds of pride, which mostly shows itself too soon, and should if possible be eradicated. We know that the Lord hath respect unto the lowly, but the proud he knoweth afar off. Remember the humility of our dear Saviour; he blessed little children, and said, "of such is the kingdom of heaven," and that whosoever will not receive the kingdom of heaven as a little child, shall in no wise enter therein. How melancholy the reflection, that corruption should be introduced by parents in gratifying their own inclinations. I fear there are some who do not consider seriously what they are doing, that deck and adorn their little babes before they knew what dress is. I have often beheld with concern the decoration of some infants' dress, totally inconsistent with the principles we

profess; lace to the little cap, and much superfluous work on the frock; such vanities, my dear friends, will ultimately prove a source of sorrow to both parents and children; when the latter arrive at serious thought, and see the impropriety of gay apparel, they may probably censure the manner they were trained, which will cause the cross to feel much harder than if more humbly brought up. Many young persons, when laid on a sick bed, have felt remorse for having given way to vain propensities, by following the vain fashions of the age; and can parents who act thus, be acquitted of having neglected their duty? The good Shepherd hath made them stewards over this part of his flock—the care of the soul is more requisite than of these poor bodies, which must ere long return to original dust. Though nature may be more lavish of her accomplishments to some than others, they should not be noticed in the hearing of the child who may have a pretty face, or fine person, with a handsome head of hair; be cautious how you observe these things, and if their attention appears to be turned on such endowments, I beg you may discourage any thing like admiration of them; they may prove a snare, if watchfulness be not the study. I well remember the strict care of my dear mother, when in our childhood, if

she perceived any appearance of vanity in dress, or fondness for one particular garment, she determined to deprive us of it, which I am convinced served to preserve us in some degree, from desiring fashionable dress. I esteem such care a blessing, and it is, in my opinion, one of the greatest tokens of real parental love that can be shown. Winking at foibles in children is very mistaken love, and not the way to promote their comfort. Let all beware of laying a foundation for sorrow in the trying hour. My dear friends, be prevailed on to nip every evil inclination in the bud.

'And you, my dear children, be dutiful and obedient to your parents, attentive to their commands, and, as you grow in years, try to make all the return in your power for their care of you in infancy. Be kind and affectionate one toward another, for this is well-pleasing in the sight of your heavenly Father, from whom your most trifling faults cannot be concealed; though you may attempt to hide them from human eye, think not to do so from Him who sees and knows the thoughts, words, and actions. Never be tempted to tell a lie, or deceive any person; act with candour, and be willing to acknowledge your faults, and you will be the more readily forgiven. Never bear in your mind any thing like resentment; be careful to for-

give every offence you receive from others—if we do not forgive, neither will our heavenly Father forgive us our trespasses. Remember not injuries, but should differences arise at any time, endeavour, as soon as may be for a reconciliation; so will you live in peace and love with your fellow-creatures. Our Saviour commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them; may you be preserved from breaking this holy commandment. I love you all, my dear children, and tenderly entreat you ever to live in the fear of the Almighty, who can bless you and make you happy.'

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11 mo. 10.—'I wish my dear friends every where to avoid speaking to the prejudice of any person. Whenever you feel a temptation to this evil, or are in the way of hearing others, discourage it as much as possible—never join in such a conversation. If charity cover not the tongue, let the finger of silence rest upon the lips; would you like to be so treated by others in your absence? I believe, did we often reflect thus, we should then wish to do unto others as we like them to do to us; this would entirely prevent tale-bearing and detraction being heard of, which I think a cruel practice. Avoid and dis-

courage a volatile disposition, and levity of conduct, at all times, as there is danger attends giving way to this inclination. Seek to acquire a regular, circumspect deportment, which is generally accompanied by innocent cheerfulness.'

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11 mo. 11.—'I have been considering our query, *Is there among you any growth in the truth?* which I think should excite an individual, impartial examination, and frequent communion with the heart, by which we would discover whether our desires after the knowledge of the best things increase, and if this be the happy case, I believe a growth in the truth must then be experienced. Beware, my beloved friends, of indifference or lukewarmness prevailing as to your progress in the work of righteousness, which shall bring you peace; this is a glorious work to engage in—let none be dismayed, as all who follow their Divine Leader in the way he requires, and serve him faithfully, shall finally receive a rich reward for all their toils. Take up your cross daily, and bear the yoke of a dear Saviour. I can tell you his yoke is easy and his burden light. There is no way to the crown but by the cross. With the Lord is fulness of joy, and at his

right hand are pleasures for evermore—his ways are ways of pleasantness, and all his paths are peace.'

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11 mo. 13.—'Oh! the comfort and happy state of mind we enjoy by loving the Lord above all things—it is beyond the power of utterance. Trust in him at all times, and you shall find every want supplied: trust not in the fading pleasures of this transitory state. My dear friends, spurn not the gentle monitions of the Most High; despise not the day of small things; cherish the least appearance of good which may arise in the mind, and should any feel at times as though deprived of spiritual comfort, be not discouraged;—the Lord is pleased to hide himself for a time, in order, I believe, to prove our faith and love to him; and if he still find us seeking for him, he will delight to satisfy our hungry souls. I have sometimes thought of those who are tempted whilst in the vigour of life and health to slight their blessed Lord and Saviour by persevering in follies, and indulging the gratifications of self—how can such look for comfort in a time of trial, and on a sick bed—let them consider the danger of living entirely at ease in their own pleasures, so long as they are able

to enjoy them, that when deprived of ability or relish for such things, then the Almighty may laugh at their calamity, and mock when their fear cometh.'

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11 mo. 15.—'Oh! the ecstacy and rapturous sensations that fill my soul, contemplating celestial happiness; a prospect of which, I hope, is mercifully granted me. I believe I feel at times something like a foretaste of the joys of heaven. There is none like unto the Lord: he has granted all my desires: I seem as though all my wishes are now satisfied; I have seen my dearly beloved Aunt, who I never expected to have met in this world. I feel my heart overflow with gratitude to the best of parents, my dear Lord, who has daily blessed me with innumerable comforts, and yesterday, not the least, of seeing so dear a relative. May the Almighty be her support in her weakly state! Oh! my God will be with all that seek him.—I sought him and was not disappointed. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits? I have nothing to give him but his own, and that he shall have.

'I hope I always loved the Truth; though I did little if any thing to forward the great work, I wished for its prosperity; and that

all may experience a growth in this inestimable treasure, let none depend on another answering this important query, [Is there among you any growth in the truth?] but individually examine their own state, and earnestly press after that great attainment. Let this be the frequent language of the mind, "Create in me a clean heart, and re-"new a right spirit within me," for thou, O Lord, alone can perfect the work!'

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11 mo. 18.—'O my God, how profuse hast thou been of thy goodness to me, from my infantile years to this time. I delight to commemorate the Lord's peculiar mercies and comforts, dispensed to me on a bed of languishing, in the course of which time I was favoured to partake of visits from several kind friends, that I hope are faithful in the work of my dear Redeemer, and ministers of the Gospel, who comforted and strengthened me; nor shall I, whilst favoured with recollection, lose sight of the feelings enjoyed, the few moments I passed in the company of my much valued friend, Nathan Hunt, from America, who was the messenger of good tidings to my bed-side. Often have I reflected on that precious season, wherein I felt as if the good Master was

present with us. This visit made so great an impression on my mind, I did not like to omit noticing it. The few like opportunities I enjoyed with other dear friends, afforded me solid satisfaction:—all, I trust, are sealed on my memory. Never be cast down, O my soul, nor disquieted within me; trust in the Lord, for I shall praise him, who is the health of my countenance and my God. What should I do, but for constant supplies of inward support from the pure, inexhaustible fountain of all good? My bodily weakness is now exceedingly oppressive, but through all my mind is preserved calm and tranquil, which more than compensates for any bodily suffering,—thanks to my beloved, everlasting Helper, who can do as much for others, yea, more, than he hath done for me: this thought is consoling to my mind. Let not thy hand spare, O Lord! nor thine eye pity, until thou hast made all hearts what thou wouldest have them to be. Oh! that all may submit to the operations of Truth, and none be strangers to the inward work, which is a blessed work indeed.

'I was one night awoke from sleep, with these comfortable words impressed on my mind, "They shall be kept in perfect peace "whose minds are stayed on their God." I trust mine is so, or I should hardly enjoy such sweet peace and quiet as I do, and have

enjoyed for many weeks back. I must not fail to glorify the great I AM, who doth marvellous things, manifold are his works, in wisdom are all ordered by him. I have thought of the lepers which we read were cleansed, and of their neglect. "Where are "the nine?" said the only one good Healer: "There are not found that have returned "to give glory to God, save this stranger." Be not deficient my dear friends, in praising your Heavenly Father for the very least of his favours. We feel a wish to make some return to our friends for past kindness, and surely we should feel doubly anxious to return gratitude and praises, due to that great and good Being, from whom alone we receive every perfect gift, and whose stores of kindness are never closed against us; if the fault be not our own, no good thing will he withhold that can add to our comfort. He who walketh on the wings of the wind, and the clouds are under his feet, whose throne is in heaven and his footstool on earth, He it is I wish to praise and exalt, who, I humbly trust, will be pleased ere long to raise me to the summit of felicity. I desire to be abased as in dust and ashes, knowing my nothingness in the Divine sight.'

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11 mo. 21.—'In a feeling of that love which I believe death shall only dissolve, do I entreat those who are fond of gay dress, and adorning these poor bodies of clay, to consider, that though in a state of natural perfection one day, yet before another closes they may be cold and lifeless as the dust from whence they sprung. Ah! my dear friends, let this thought often impress your minds, and be not exalted in your own estimation, neither lean to your own understanding—we can do nothing of ourselves; all our endeavours are unavailing without the aid of the Almighty. "Except the Lord "build the house, they labour in vain that "build it,—except the Lord keep the city, "the watchman waketh but in vain." So it is in all our good actions through life, we must know his holy Hand to be underneath. Let the creature be humbled in all things, but the Creator exalted—exalted and magnified for evermore! "To this man will I "look, saith the Lord, even to him that is "poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth "at my word."—It is not in sacrifices and burnt offerings that thou delightest, but the sacrifice of a broken heart, O God thou wilt not despise. Be pleased to convert all hearts as thou hast mine. Oh! thou adored and delight of my soul, Lord God Almighty, thou knowest that I love thee, and earnestly

crave that all may love and serve thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.—I wish all frequently to retire and wait on the Lord, believing such offerings are acceptable, and that the time devoted to such services would be blessed;—it is in the silence of all flesh that we can approach the Throne of Grace with acceptance;—all our own thoughts must be subdued—thus shall we hear the still small voice.

'May my beloved brothers, sisters, and dear friends, yea, all the world over, come to experience the happy state of a true believer, and have full confidence in the Divine Being, which I have found the advantage of; but I do not mention this from boasting, well knowing it has been all the Lord's work and marvellous in my eyes, that an unworthy creature like me should have been thus noticed and so eminently cared for by the great and good Author of all nature.—Oh! that the celestial and terrestrial world may ever praise my dear Redeemer, who reigns triumphant in the realms above. I long since thought that the Divine decree was not for my continuance in this world; at that time I felt as if it would be hard to part with those near and dear to me, but all have been much easier given up than I ever expected—thanks be to Him with whom all

things are possible, he has drawn my affections wholly to himself; I can cheerfully resign all to his care—I know he will comfort and support my dearly beloved lonely sister in the trying time of separation, if she only look to him in sincerity and reliance she will find a Father and a Friend that shall never be taken from her. She has been to me a most tender affectionate nurse, and did all she could towards my bodily relief, for which I trust she will be rewarded here and hereafter.'

1821, 5 mo. 8.—'My soul fervently prays that my blessed, precious Redeemer may alone be glorified, praised, and exalted over all, for this his encreasing power, as for all his goodness and wondrous works on me, an unworthy, unprofitable servant. I praise and adore my God, for all his acts are good; of the encrease of his government there shall be no end; he has redoubled his love and peace unto me, since he hath laid his good hand additionally on my poor body, by depriving me of the power of extolling him with my tongue.* Oh! that all things may

* A few days before this was written she lost the power of speech; it was restored to her, after the lapse of nearly nine months, and a short time before her decease.

redound to his great glory: I shall not cease my silent gratitude and praise, I humbly trust, whilst life and ability are granted me. In death there is no remembrance of thee, in the grave who shall give my Saviour thanks! Oh! praise the Lord, all ye his creatures, and love and serve him I beseech you, for he is worthy above all.—Oh! that I could serve him to my last breath. I ardently crave that the great Lord of the harvest may be pleased to send forth more labourers into his harvest, which truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few—more is the pity! —great loss of peace and comfort being sustained by the negligent;—the hand of the diligent maketh rich in the spiritual life—I wish all to be aroused to more faithfulness, there is nothing like it. Great things are in store for those who love my good Master, and work in his vineyard—the reward is rich and sure. Believe me, I know it now, and rejoice to leave a proof of the certainty of it, if thereby I may incline survivors to turn unto the Lord with full purpose of heart, and serve him the residue of their days, which will produce them real happiness. Oh! the bliss which my soul enjoys is unutterable—may every creature have the same to declare in good time.'

Her sister Anne having asked her did she think she should not speak again, she

wrote as follows :—'Not known to me, but be content and resigned, as I am to my Saviour's will. I never enjoyed so large a share of happiness—join me in praising our Heavenly Father, and in every thing give him thanks. My beloved sisters, be faithful, and lay your shoulders to his blessed work, so will the Lord bless you and make your sick bed happy, as he has made mine ;—glory be to his ever excellent name—Amen, saith my soul—I love the whole race of mankind and wish all as happy as myself.'

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5 mo. 16.—'I wish it was the general practice for families to collect their domestics and read a portion of the Holy Scriptures to them daily; for the contents of the sacred volume cannot be too much promulgated in the earth: may you, my beloved sisters, be in this practice, and on first days especially; appropriate not that day to visiting or entertaining company, which must necessarily require attendance and labour.

'If I had a wish to return to the world, it would be to set an example of simplicity and serving my blessed Redeemer first of all: there is no happiness comparable to that which results from faithfulness to the Lord. That you, my dear sisters, may be of this

happy number is the frequent and fervent prayer of my soul for you; so will you be blessed. I can promise you a rich reward from an easy good Master, who don't require any thing hard. Oh! give him all he shall call for at your hands—you cannot resign too much for his dear sake: "To obey "is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than "the fat of rams." If all the treasures of this vain world were at my command, I should with delight, and a rejoicing heart, resign them for the sake of a faithful Creator, from whom I have received so great things—numerous unmerited blessings hath he shed on my unworthy head, and is still multiplying his boundless goodness. Would I wish to resign such loving kindness? I say no: all temptation would be insufficient to make me give up my beloved, who, I hope, I have surrendered my whole heart unto; for to him alone it is due. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord.

'May you be as lights in the world, that others seeing your good works may be induced to follow your footsteps, and glorify your Heavenly Father, to whom I tenderly advise you to keep a single eye—let him be your chief dependance, and have the first place in your affections. I love you as a sister; but there is added a pure love which

many waters cannot quench, nor the floods of adversity destroy—it reaches over sea and land.

'It is a fine attainment to be at peace with the Almighty, and to be ready for the pale spectre, which, though awful, has no terrors for me; my precious Saviour has taken away the sting. Oh Death! where is thy sting? Oh, Grave! where is thy victory? All praises, glory, honour, and dominion be ascribed to the name of the Lord, the great Jehovah, now and for evermore, saith my converted, happy soul!—Amen.'

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5 mo. 18.—'This has been a precious, happy day, like many preceding it, visited by the renewings of my Heavenly Father's love. Oh! the beams of his benign, blessed countenance, would cheer the most gloomy abode, and enliven the dreary confines of a dungeon. My time glides happily, and apparently swifter than when enjoying health: may I fancy myself a partaker of heavenly joys, though still an inhabitant of these lower regions? Have I a grateful heart, or am I diligent in returning thee thy own, my dear Lord, as thou art graciously pleased to grant me ability so to do? Oh! that Thou, who art the bountiful giver of every blessing,

may vouchsafe to continue with me, and cause my heart to overflow with gratitude and praise unto thee, whilst thou art pleased to leave me in this state of being. And, dearest Father, preserve me faithful, obedient, patient and resigned, to await the time when it shall be consistent with thy unerring will to grant my spirit a release from captivity, and unite it to thy church triumphant in singing praises and hallelujahs to thy sacred and ever-worthy name, through a boundless, happy eternity, world without end.—Amen.'

A little girl being brought to her bedside, she afterwards wrote as follows:—

'On seeing that sweet little babe, the emblem of innocence, I was led to contemplate the pure state the soul must arrive at, that is admitted into paradise; which our Saviour said, must be as a little child, before any could enter the kingdom of Heaven. It is a great attainment to be one of these happy babes in Christ, our Lord and Redeemer; to know that the will is become subservient as a little babe, in every thing obedient to Divine power and command, not daring to make any opposition thereto.'

5 mo. 20.—'My dear Redeemer's blessed words when on earth were—"My meat is "to do the will of Him that sent me:"—this, I humbly trust, has been my greatest delight for some time past: it is truly pleasant to obey the will of my Heavenly Father, even in what may appear trifling; all bring a rich reward of peace, which fully compensates for every surrender, however much in the cross it is made.

'"I am the bread of life," said the dear Lord; [and, in another place,] "Whoso-"ever drinketh of the water that I shall "give him, shall never thirst; but the water "that I shall give him shall be in him, a well "of water springing up into everlasting life." Oh! my soul, thou hast eaten freely of the bread which thy heavenly Father dispenses with a bountiful hand, satisfying liberally thy daily wants and desires. Those who ask this spiritual nourishment, in faith, will not fail of finding it, which animates and inspires with renewed hope and confidence in the goodness and mercies of an omnipotent Deity, without whom we should be miserable, hopeless, helpless, and comfortless creatures—in perpetual danger but for his watchful, protecting eye, which neither slumbers nor sleeps—a faithful, good shepherd, looking over his flock lest the wolf should catch any to destroy them. We are

poor finite creatures, cannot do the least good thing of ourselves—continually dependent on a superintending power for every thing: what have we to exalt us or to boast of, but all to humble and abase self and contrite our spirits? What meekness and lowliness of mind we ought to possess—made after the similitude of him who was meek and lowly of heart, plain and simple in his appearance, whose coat was woven without a seam. Oh! I love to dwell near a dear Lord, studying his miraculous acts, and condescending goodness, all for poor fallen mankind, in order to raise to glory and happiness those who will seek his redemption, and look unto him as their only Saviour, and hope of the immortal soul. My prospects are so bright, and the way to eternity so clear and unobscured, that I compare it to a cloudless sky on a fine day.

'I feel grateful in having ability granted me thus to leave a little memorial of my continued unmerited happiness, for the comfort and encouragement of survivors, if thereby I shall induce any not to pass unnoticed so great and marvellous works, or slight that Providence who is merciful to all transgressors, the least of whose goodness I am undeserving of. Forget not then his wondrous works, but seek him diligently, and confide in him alone; he will not disappoint

you—he never disappointed me, nor denied me any comfort, either spiritual or temporal, which his Divine wisdom saw meet I should enjoy: thus should all be contented and thankful, giving praise for all dispensations, "most for the severe." Never did I enjoy more calmness, serenity, or peace, than since the power of articulation ceased; my never-failing Comforter enabling my trembling fingers to declare his goodness. Oh! may all things redound to his everlasting praise; and glorify, exalt, and magnify his ever-worthy name, above all in heaven and on earth—his marvellous doings all declare his majesty. I believe it is wisely ordained, that others beside myself shall benefit by this long-protracted illness; if such be the gracious design, I rejoice to have been chosen a sufferer for the sake of Him who bled for me.

'The christian life is a continual warfare; or something similar to a sea-voyage, prosperous part of the time, but often are poor mariners disappointed, and are wrecked within view of land; so frail man, toiling on this ocean of trouble, is liable to attacks from an unwearied enemy, which endanger his safety, and sometimes terminate in ruin. A fine morning is often succeeded by a tempestuous evening; no time of life are we secure, but whilst under the immediate pro-

tection of that Providence and sure Pilot, whose power is invincible, able to deliver from the most imminent perils; who hath said, "My grace is sufficient for thee." The Lord is a sure refuge in the day of trial, and a present help in every time of need; he strengtheneth the weak hands, and confirmeth the feeble knees; he is a shelter from the heat, and as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. "Watch and pray, "that ye enter not into temptation," said the Holy Pattern of all goodness. The proud billows, or high towering rocks, may overwhelm some, and others may sink in the quicksands of despair, but the good Pilot can steer clear of all danger, and bring safe to shore.

'Day after day rolls on, and I am still a living monument of the mercies and wondrous power of that good Hand that has inflicted all for a wise purpose. Extreme debility is my portion, I suffer much at intervals: I hope, through all, I have a thankful heart, preserved from murmuring. I am well rewarded for all, and much more. He who gradually reduces the bodily powers is graciously pleased to renew and strengthen the mental, so that as the outward man decays and grows weaker, the inward man becomes stronger and stronger.—This is the Lord's doing, and marvellous in our eyes!

—May it be indelibly sealed on every heart that has heard, or known and witnessed such continued, unmerited loving kindness. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, O God! what thou hast prepared for them that love thee.—Take courage and use diligence; there is the same in store for all who seek in sincerity, and patiently wait the dear Redeemer's good time for every blessing; they that have faith and believe, shall find things comparable to mountains removed; those that trust in the Lord shall not be disappointed; I have experienced the proof; let none fear or be dismayed, the Father of mercies, the Fountain of living waters, is inexhaustible and endureth for ever. Thanksgiving, glory, and praise are due to Him alone, who only doeth any good thing! I must praise the name of my Redeemer whilst I live, and magnify his excellence; he is my chief love—I love all my Creator loves: God is love, and they that dwell in God dwell in love—he is all love. "Love one "another as I have loved you," was an injunction left by the dear Saviour with his disciples: Oh! that the whole race of mankind were his followers, then should they be happy.

'I cannot wish any creature a higher attainment, than to enjoy the portion of bliss dispensed unto me by my Heavenly Parent,

ever bountiful of his gifts; nor a more rich reward for thee, my beloved sister, who has so often administered to my bodily necessities, indefatigable and unremitting in thy affectionate attentions, endeavouring to soothe and comfort me all in thy power during this long illness:—Oh! may the Almighty bless thee, as he has blessed thy unworthy sister, which I desire to be more and more sensible of, knowing I never deserved the favours received; mayest thou feel the same support on a sick bed; whenever it shall please Infinite Wisdom to confine thee to that narrow space, may he make it as happy as mine has been, and comfort thee by his good presence, which only can buoy thee up under all afflictions, and enable to endure the pains of disease without repining, or even thinking the time tedious or long. Thou hast often witnessed the manifold kindness of Providence, and his wonderful works, whilst engaged with me, and I sincerely desire thou mayest never suffer these numerous tokens of Divine love to be erased from thy remembrance.'

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5 mo. 21.—'Whilst this poor body lingers under the weight of disease, the soul, never wearied waiting on its beloved Lord, re-

plenished with dew from on high, soars aloft on wings like an eagle, and fainteth not;—they that wait on thee O Lord! shall find their strength renewed. When attained unto the measure and stature of the fulness of grace, we are no longer strangers to the new birth, but are as new born babes, desiring the sincere milk of the Word. Oh! my soul art thou a babe in Christ thy Redeemer, who can alone cleanse, and keep from sin and corruption?—hast thou, through the washing of regeneration passed from death unto life; and become a child of God, and inheritor of the kingdom of Heaven, ever delighted to hear the pure word of thy beloved?—It is a fine thing to know that we are born again, thereby becoming "heirs of "God, and joint heirs with Christ" in his kingdom of glory.—Better is it to seek after a knowledge of the things that pertain to our peace, than to be over anxious for the wisdom of this world, which is foolishness with God—"Fear God, and keep his com-"mandments, for this is the whole duty of "man; for God shall bring every work into "judgment, with every secret thing, whe-"ther it be good or whether it be evil."

'My dear sister, thou who art a parent, consider the responsibility of thy situation, and the pure state in which thy beloved charge are delivered to thee; sow not the

seeds of corruption, by indulging the vain mind as it expands; endeavour to preserve their innocence as they advance in life; nip every evil propensity in the bud, suffer no noxious weeds to take root and grow, which destroy all tender plants.—Oh! that these lambs, entrusted to thy care by the Heavenly Shepherd, as they grow in years, may grow in grace, and in favour with God and man. The forming and training of the infant mind devolves mostly on mothers, (particularly that of girls,) they had need to seek best wisdom as their guide in this important duty—this alone is able to direct in all the concerns of life. Early inculcate a love and reverence for their Creator, and a fear of offending him in thought, word, or deed. Instruct the tender mind in the principles of piety and virtue, instilling therein an early love of both; keep them humble in ideas, plain and simple in their dress: humility goes before honour, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Winking at the foibles of children is mistaken fondness, and often to be regretted in more mature years; it is not, in my view, any mark of real parental love, nor can it contribute to the comfort of parents or children. May they in after life requite your care of their puerile years by walking in the Truth, which, that they may love, and choose for their portion, is my chief

wish for them. I fear not their further prosperity if Truth be their guide in all their actions; I covet for them to buy the Truth early and sell it not—the first impressions are generally most permanent, in which the greater care should be observed to guard the young mind, endeavouring to store it with good—

"'Tis education forms the tender mind,
"Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclin'd."'

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5 mo. 22.—'This day very ill, thanks and praise to my dear Lord; no sleep from between twelve and one o'clock last night: all my comforts proceed from the one great source, and if humbly and gratefully acknowledged, the end will crown every thing and terminate all suffering—

"How long, O Lord! shall mortal clay,
"Detain my soul from thee;
"When shall the welcome message come,
"To set the captive free:
"Oh! may I here in patience wait,
"Till Jesus me to bliss translate."

'He is well worth waiting for and watching diligently: I desire to maintain a strict watch, that I may not be taken at unawares.

'Hitherto I have helped thee and will

help.—In quietness and confidence will be thy strength. These assurances have long attended my mind, united with this comforting language: "Thou wilt keep him in per-"fect peace whose mind is stayed on thee." All hath been verified through the unmerited goodness and great power of my precious Redeemer, who hath done all for me—my confidence remains unshaken; I fear not the same preservation being graciously vouchsafed to the end of my pilgrimage,—my dear Saviour can and will, I humbly trust, keep my courage undaunted, let what will befal me: under the shadow of his wings shall I take refuge, the only sure hiding place. Oh! may all be inspired with full assurance to rely entirely on the Rock of ages, against which the gates of hell shall never prevail.'

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5 mo. 26.—'Twelve months to-morrow since my dear Anne was at meeting; I believe next day was the attack which put a period to my ever walking down stairs. I praise and thank the Almighty good hand that did all for my redemption. The body only is afflicted, the soul goes on its way rejoicing in its Creator; yea, my soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced

in God my Saviour, who hath regarded the low estate of his handmaid, and from henceforth all may say, I have been marvellously blessed and cared for—all my days are happy.—Oh! gratitude dost thou flow in my heart to my Maker.—Providence has preserved my memory unimpaired through all, blessed for ever be his holy and worthy name, he has done all for me:—I wish I may not pass unnoticed, the least token of divine love.

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5 mo. 27.—'I have close combat this day with the feelings of nature, being nearly tried, parting with a dear sister, probably for the last time: if not for the divine arm which never leaves me helpless I must betray human weakness; that is a sure anchor to rest on, but for it, what should I be, a poor frail mortal, destitute of all good.—In our flesh dwelleth corruption and impurity. Our blessed Lord was seen to weep several times, but never to laugh—he wept over the fallen state of Jerusalem, and for Lazarus whom he loved; I believe he will forgive a few involuntary tears this day starting in mine eyes; knowing our weakness, he pities those that fear him. Truly my soul waiteth on God, from him cometh my help—he only

is my defence, I shall not be greatly moved. Do thou, my dear sister, try to keep a firm hold of confidence, fortitude, and resignation; that whenever it shall please infinite Wisdom to strike the separating blow, thou mayest know where to fly for succour and comfort, which if diligently sought after will never disappoint. Oh! that Comforter, even the Spirit of Truth, which leadeth into all truth, is well worth an indefatigable search. I feel assured that he who is faithful, unerring, and a covenant keeping God, will be near my beloved Anne in the hour of trial, if the fault be not her own. He hath proved to me, that they who trust him shall not trust in vain.'

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5 mo. 29.—'"Peace," said the dear Son of God, "I leave with you, my peace I "give unto you; not as the world giveth, "give I."'

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5 mo. 30.—'Peace, sweet peace, thou art not to be slighted by me, but must be gained by obedience. Oh! my beloved sister, I am again brought into the low valley of humiliation, by feeling that I am bound, in

duty and obedience, to the still small voice, which I dare not disobey now, to see any of my friends who shall incline to look at a happy, redeemed creature, deprived of strength to convey to them any thing by speech. This morning it has been clearly revealed, that I must show unto others the continued goodness of my dear Lord, and the great things he is still doing for me; and though not able to declare any thing verbally, I must let them judge from my countenance, the peace and happiness I enjoy in this act of obedience to the Divine will: I am assured it shall bring me its reward, both whilst in this state and in eternity. Oh! I dare not refuse, however repugnant to human nature. I do not discriminate, but desire that such friends as feel a wish may be gratified. I hope curiosity will not influence one, for to me it is awful not to obey in every thing, and complying in this instance is deeply humiliating to the natural will in my now reduced state.

'We are not to question the acts of the Most High, nor to say, "What doest thou?" but to be passive in his holy hand. I humbly trust this requiring may be beneficial to survivors, and induce in all a total surrender of their own wills to the great Ruler, who can bless or blight our prospects in the twinkling of an eye. Marvellous are the

Lord's works. Oh! may such as have seen me, and now behold again the wondrous doings of the Almighty, never forget the scene. I believe I am designed to be of lasting advantage to some in this meeting, if the fault be not their own; may it finally prove so, and I rejoice to be a sufferer in the hand of Omnipotence; for his worthy name's sake I give up all. I am promised support in this as in former exertions. I believe every little sacrifice will produce its reward to those who submit the offering demanded.'

To some of her friends who came to see her she wrote thus :—'May this act of dedication to the divine will redound to the praise and glory of Him to whom it is due. I wish this visit may be sealed on each of our minds my beloved friends—my dear love to —— tell him I wish he may turn unto the Lord, and serve him all his future life. My chief delight is in seeking a revelation of the sacred will, and acting consistent therewith—thus brought to a child-like state of control. Oh! it is truly pleasant to obey thee my precious Redeemer.'

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5 mo. 30.—'My soul thou art this day filled with treasures which lie concealed, thou art enriched and made fat with joy; thus thou art rewarded for being obedient; my peace may be said to flow as a river.—"He brought me into his banquetting house, "and his banner over me was love"—the altogether lovely, the chief among ten thousand is my beloved; his voice it is sweet, and his countenance is comely; my beloved is mine and I am his—yes, my dearest Jesus, thou art mine, and I humbly hope I am thine for ever and ever. I would rather be a doorkeeper in thy holy house than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

'Oh! when will thy good time arrive, to release my captive spirit?—but I must not be impatient: I now see I was too anxious to be gone to rest; I am thankful that I was disappointed, knowing it is for some good and wise purpose that my life is prolonged, for which, as for every blessing, I praise the great Disposer of events, whose decrees are all in wisdom, and his ways just and equal. Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, but lay up treasures in heaven; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also:—seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and every thing necessary will be added unto you. May I be faithful, obedient, and patient to the end, and be

made a pillar in the house of my God, to go no more out. I am an undeserving, unprofitable servant, but I have a merciful Judge to appear before, whose forgiveness of my past errors, though numerous, I have no doubt of: I hope they have already appeared in judgment and are blotted out.

'It is a fearful state to despise the day of small things, or slight the offers of Omnipotence; to deny or be ashamed of Him, through the shedding of whose precious blood all are saved, by having their robes washed and purified therein. Let such as are conscious of denying the Holy One and the Just, the Prince of Peace, take care that if they persist in so doing, he may "laugh "at their calamity, and mock when their "fear cometh." I earnestly wish that the eyes of these may be speedily opened to behold their critical and awful situation, unless they return with a repentant heart.

'I tenderly entreat all, to bear their cross and despise the shame, counting it a glory to suffer in the cause of a dear crucified Saviour, who bled for the remission of sins, who is the only salvation of every soul, and who declared, "he that taketh not his cross and follow-"eth after me is not worthy of me;" and "whosoever shall confess me before men, "him will I also confess before my Father "which is in heaven, but whosoever shall

"deny me before men, him will I also deny "before my Father which is in heaven."—Why am I thus exercised, unless for a warning call to backsliders? Oh! that none may be "like the deaf adder, that stoppeth her "ear, which will not listen to the voice of "charmers, charming never so wisely."'

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5 mo. 31.—"Stay me with flagons, com-"fort me with apples, for I am sick of love."—Thus is the church described with her beloved; so I venture to compare my own state this day, a cup overflowing with peace, love and joy. Oh bliss unutterable! almost too much to bear whilst clad in mortal garb: who would wish to stay, serving this fading world, pursuing its deceitful allurements?

"They build too low who build beneath the skies."

'Is it not inviting to serve with fidelity, and obey with alacrity, every requiring of so good a Master, who requites thus liberally?—nothing should tempt to refuse acquiescence at all times. Through the tender dealings and power of the Most High my will is subjected, and I hope ever to yield compliance during my existence. Yes, my soul, thou art firmly fixed, and enjoys too large a share of happiness to dare be un-

grateful, by opposing the will of thy Maker in any degree. To persevere in resistance is vain, for as the sturdy oak bends to the axe of the feller, so must the most resolute will finally bend to the power of a Supreme Ruler. The tall cedars of Lebanon and the lofty oaks of Bashan must bow; all high looks and every proud heart will the Lord bring down. "God resisteth the proud, but "giveth grace unto the humble—whosoever "exalteth himself shall be abased, and he "that humbleth himself shall be exalted." In prosperity be not puffed up, and in adversity do thou consider. "If ye be willing "and obedient ye shall eat the good of the "land."—"The meek will he guide in "judgment, and the meek will he teach his "way."—"It is of the Lord's mercies that "we are not consumed, because his compas-"sions fail not; they are new every morn-"ing; great is thy faithfulness."

'It is all grace, free, unmerited grace, whereby we are saved. "All our righteous-"nesses are as filthy rags." Dare not to ascribe any thing, however trifling, to the creature, but give all honour and praise to the Creator, from whom cometh every good thing we possess.—Self should always be abased as in dust and ashes; a poor frail worm of the earth, full of sin and corruption, void of any good. May the dear Son

of God, the Lamb immaculate, become the joy and praise of the whole earth. I have none in heaven but thee, nor in the earth that I desire in comparison of thee, my precious, blessed Redeemer, who has done all for my purification. It is a truth, that "the heart "knoweth his own bitterness, and a stranger "doth not intermeddle with his joy."'

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6 mo. 2.—'By my external composure, judge the reigning internal calm and quiet. Suppose not, my dear friends, that I am depressed on seeing you, since articulation has ceased; I feel gratitude and praise fill my heart in being strengthened in this act of obedience to my great Master, believing it intended to be of use to those who here witness the wondrous works, and continued mercies of a kind omnipotent Ruler, that has inspired me with a lively interest in his glorious cause, and fortified human weakness to serve him through all, however great the cross. Require what thou wilt, my dear Lord, only speak the word and thy servant shall obey, having by thine own power and love effected entire submission, and a total surrender of self for thy dear sake; nothing is too much to give up, thou hast made hard things easy and bitter things

sweet; without thee I am helpless and destitute: I doubt not thy sustaining, comforting presence to the close of life; thou art my only hope, and may all terminate in thy glory, honour, and praise; promoting a faithful service in thy blessed work on earth, for thou, my beloved Redeemer, art alone worthy to be loved, served, feared, and obeyed for evermore!

'I am far more than repaid for all outward privations; every morning, yea, each moment demands my humble gratitude and unremitting assiduity. As the hand of the diligent bringeth riches in the temporal, so it doth in the spiritual life. May the aged, the middle aged, and young, be excited to continual labour, and seriously consider the uncertain moment, when the inhabitants of these tottering mansions of clay may be called, prepared or unprepared, to meet the great just Judge of quick and dead, who weigheth our actions in an even balance:—Be ye ready in waiting for the sound of the trumpet.

'I ardently crave that the number of truly devoted servants may increase, that the desolations and numerous breaches made in the Lord's camp, through unfaithfulness to the principle, may be soon repaired thereby. O, Zion! thou glorious Mount Zion! a quiet habitation, peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces; mayest thou

become the beauty and joy of all nations. Each of you, my beloved friends, press forward to the mark; take up your cross, and finally obtain the prize in view. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. Let such as are invited to the marriage supper take care of making excuses, lest the halt and the maimed, or those in the highways and hedges, should be made partakers thereof, and you cast out. Oh! it is an awful thing to delay, or refuse the heavenly visitation; many are called but few are chosen; the last shall be first and the first last. I pray the Lord of the vineyard that he may send forth labourers into his vineyard, each to receive the reward, they who work but one hour, as they that bear the burden and heat of the day.

'My desires are frequent, and I hope sincere, to be preserved from any selfish motive influencing my actions, in leaving a memorial of unmerited favours so bountifully bestowed on me. The honour and praise of my Maker, I humbly trust, are now my chief delight to seek. I hope I am not deceived in believing that the main bent of my inclination is to do all I can in the service of my Heavenly Father, who has done so much for me; thus to endeavour to make some restitution for past errors and omissions which I was guilty of. Should this frail

mortal desire at any time to boast, be puffed up, or wish the least merit, oh! that it may be mortified and abased in the earth, brought to nothing, as it really is in the sight of an omniscient, perfect Deity, without whose aid it cannot even think a good thought, much less do a good act. Ah! my dear friends, humble the creature, I entreat you, but exalt and highly extol the Creator for all, whose right it is to rule and have the pre-eminence.

'We should not fail to celebrate the goodness of the Almighty, in the ears of them afar off, that so they might be induced to draw near unto him and be saved. "Look "unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of "the earth." "Draw nigh to God, and he "will draw nigh to you," saith the Apostle. "Come now, and let us reason together, "saith the Lord: though your sins be as "scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, "though they be red like crimson, they "shall be as wool." Surely here is every encouragement for backsliders to return unto the Lord, who will heal their backslidings and forgive their iniquities, if the heart be truly repentant.—There is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth than over ninety and nine just persons that need not repentance.

'In that love which influences me to wish

every creature the same portion of happiness with myself, I earnestly desire those who are aloof may speedily come near, and submit to the refining, purifying operations of the Word of Truth revealed in the secret of the soul. No longer resist or stifle the still small voice, which invites in the most tender, gentle language,—yea, like a fond parent, wishing all his children to be happy. The way is plain, and so simple, that none need go astray: "the wayfaring men, though "fools, shall not err therein." "Seek ye "the Lord while he may be found, call ye "upon him while he is near. Let the wick-"ed forsake his way, and the unrighteous "man his thoughts, and let him return unto "the Lord, and he will have mercy upon "him, and to our God, for he will abun-"dantly pardon." Be no longer governed by shame, but publicly avow yourselves on your Redeemer's side, proving by the simplicity of dress and address, that you are his followers, for whose cause our worthy predecessors counted it a glorious thing to suffer: they were not ashamed of a plain garb, or of being reckoned singular by the world, clearly evincing by their upright life and conversation their leader and guide to be the Spirit of Truth, which leads into all truth, and only can preserve in rectitude of conduct. "Come out from among them and be

"ye separate, and touch not the unclean "thing; and I will receive you, and will be "a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons "and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.'

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6 mo. 3.—"The fear of the Lord is the "beginning of wisdom," and "to depart "from evil is understanding:"—"he hath "showed thee, O man, what is good, and "what doth the Lord require of thee, but to "do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk "humbly with thy God?" I long for all to come and see how good the Lord is, to taste the sweets of his love for themselves. Every sacrifice requisite for this attainment should be made, however great, though comparable to faithful Abraham offering his son Isaac. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, "the evidence of things not seen:" it removes mountainous obstacles;—"If ye have "faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall "say unto this mountain, Remove hence to "yonder place, and it shall remove," said the dear Redeemer to his disciples. Unshaken faith is a truly desirable possession —may this gift spread and abound in every heart, so that when tried, they may prove the foundation immoveable as a rock. A true believer has many blessings: "Blessed

"are they that have not seen and yet have "believed," said my precious Saviour to Thomas, who did not believe him to be the Lord till he called him to thrust his hand into his side, and put his fingers in the print of the nails—"be not faithless but believ- "ing:" then he said, "My Lord and my "God!" Oh! that not one may be in the alarming state of an unbeliever.'

On seeing a few friends who visited her, she wrote thus:—

'The love and tender solicitude of my mind for my dear friends can only be known by Him from whom the heart is not concealed. Ah! serve the Lord faithfully and with diligence, I entreat you, for the peace flowing in an obedient mind is indescribable. I would allure every creature to make a free surrender of all demanded; keep nothing back; the Lord loveth an early sacrifice. Let not this visit pass away as the early dew or a morning cloud, but be it sealed on each mind.

'I hope gratitude fills my heart, in being enabled to see my dear friends; and though articulation has ceased, I am not depressed on seeing you. Oh! that all may redound to the praise of Him that has done all.'

6 mo. 5.—'We have many instances recorded in sacred writ of the blessings attending a firm belief and true faith in the word of the Holy One through the mouths of his messengers; by this the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, till the day that the Lord sent rain on the earth, as foretold by Elijah, the man of God, whose word being despised by the unbelieving lord, that said, "If the Lord would "make windows in heaven, might this thing "be."—"Behold, thou shalt see it with "thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof," was the reply of the Prophet; which was verified, for he was trodden to death in the gate of the city: he saw the plenty but did not taste it.

'My feelings have been deeply wounded, and sorrow has filled my heart, on hearing the public declarations of ministers torn to pieces and made little of. I tenderly warn all not to encourage this disposition. Oh! let none practice this offence in the sight of an omniscient, omnipresent Deity, who regards according to our actions, and will punish disobedience one day or other. Very unexpectedly has my mind been thus impressed this day, which I venture to disclose in, I trust, humble fear, lest I should act contrary to the will of my faithful Creator, who I desire may rule and govern all in me:

he is the mighty Counsellor, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace, showing kindness to the unthankful, and mercy to the cruel; his judgment is not harsh or severe, but lenient and compassionate to transgressors. Oh! that his law and his testimony may no longer be trampled on. "The law "of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; "the testimony of the Lord is sure, making "wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord "are right, rejoicing the heart; the com-"mandment of the Lord is pure, enlighten-"ing the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, "enduring for ever; the judgments of the "Lord are true and righteous altogether: "more to be desired are they than gold, yea, "than much fine gold, sweeter also than ho-"ney and the honey-comb."—"There is no "man that hath left house, or brethren, or "sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or "children, or lands for my sake and the "gospel's, but he shall receive an hundred "fold now in this time, and in the world to "come eternal life," said our holy Pattern, whose reward is sure to such as serve him faithfully; let the world receive them as it may, no condemnation shall rest on their heads, but greater will it be on their persecutors.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that "is within me bless his holy name: bless

"the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all "his benefits; who forgiveth all thine ini-"quities, who healeth all thy diseases." Truly pleasant is it to serve the King of kings; his yoke it is easy and his burden light. May you that have not yet taken his yoke on your shoulders be induced to come and feel its ease; no longer delay entering into the strait and narrow way which leadeth unto life: they who walk in wisdom's ways shall find them pleasant, and all her paths peace. It may be truly said, "in thy pre-"sence," O Lord, "is fulness of joy, and at "thy right hand there are pleasures for ever-"more."—"There is a river, the streams "whereof shall make glad the city of God," running through that glorious city, the beautiful Mount Zion, the new Jerusalem, wherein thou, O Immanuel! presides, the walls thereof are salvation, and its gates are praise.

'Not sleeping much leaves me fine time for meditation, and for enjoying a calm, unruffled mind. I hope I am diligent in employing all in gratitude and praise to the Author of all my unmerited blessings. Oh! what am I, to be thus cared for?—each day visited with the extendings of the Father's love, who condescends to dwell with one of the meanest, most unworthy and unprofitable of his servants. The hours are swift, and run smiling away, though not many in

the twenty-four strike unknown to me.—Art thou humble and grateful, my soul for all these favours, high favours, wholly undeserved by thee? While the day begins and ends in peace, there is good reason to hope the heart is accepted by its Maker, to whom be all the praise and adoration, who wrought this great work.'

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6 mo. 6.—'Oh! happy moments, happy moments flit away, and let the happier one come on that shall unite thee, my soul, to thy well-beloved, never more to be disturbed nor separated from Him, with whom thou delights to dwell; then thy bliss will have no alloy.—Be faithful and patient to the end, and a crown of glory is prepared for thee. Are not thy desires to allure others to the same state, as thy dear Redeemer has, through his invincible power and unmerited goodness, brought thee to? But thy chief joys, daily multiplied, lie concealed from human observation.

"Blessed are those servants whom the "Lord when he cometh shall find watching." Oh! may I be found ready in waiting any hour the bridegroom shall please to come. Have your lamps trimmed, my dear friends, ere the midnight cry is heard, lest the door

be shut, and the sentence pass—"I know "you not." Woeful are these words, *I know you not.* Individually seek to deserve the blessed sentence of "Well done, good and "faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of "thy Lord." Resolve with Joshua formerly, let others do as they may, "as for me and "my house we will serve the Lord." If all hearts were thus religiously concerned, the many deviations and inconsistencies so obvious amongst us would be removed, and a true desire to attend to the limitations of Truth in thought, word, and deed, would be entertained; thus we should be as lights in the world, a city set on a hill that cannot be hid, keeping a single eye to our holy Leader,—that others seeing our good works might be induced to walk in the same path, and glorify our Father which is in heaven.'

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6 mo. 7.—'I think it was a distinguished statesman formerly who near the close of his life expressed himself thus,—"While we "laugh, all things are serious round about "us; God is serious who preserveth us and "hath patience towards us; Christ is serious "who shed his blood for us; the Holy Ghost "is serious when he striveth with us; the "whole creation is serious in serving God and

"us; they are serious in heaven and in hell; "how then can we be gay?" I disclose in simplicity my thoughts as they occur: Levity of conduct, or much light, frivolous conversation, to me indicates a vacuum in the mind; talking much tendeth not to profit, for they that say much say some in vain. We read, "that every idle word that men shall "speak, they shall give an account thereof "in the day of judgment;" this thought should excite in each a continual watchful care of our words and actions, also a frequent severe scrutiny of ourselves, to preserve a clear, impartial account against the last day.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, "and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be "opened unto you; for every one that "asketh receiveth, and he that seeketh find-"eth, and to him that knocketh it shall be "opened." God giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not. He who clothes the lilies, feeds the sparrows, and commanded the ravens to feed the prophet Elijah, is not to be distrusted in any thing. "If a son shall ask "bread of any of you that is a father, will "he give him a stone, or if he ask a fish "will he for a fish give him a serpent, or if "he shall ask an egg will he offer him a "scorpion?—If ye then, being evil, know "how to give good gifts unto your children, "how much more shall your Heavenly Fa-

"ther give the Holy Spirit to them that ask
"him?"—Oh! this is my only preserver, supporter, comforter, and provider; what should I be if deprived of it? Pilgrim, poor and helpless, without any good thing whatever. If we expect a continuance of this his first, great blessing, we must petition for it daily, in sincere, humble confidence, patiently waiting the will and time of the wise, good Giver: this inestimable gift is worth a quiet, long waiting for; let none tire though tedious the time may seem; the more patient, the greater will be the gain ultimately; this I testify from certain experience, and my heart delights in celebrating and extolling the name of the everlasting Jehovah, who hath said of old, "The mountains shall de-
"part and the hills be removed, but my kind-
"ness shall not depart from thee, neither
"shall the covenant of my peace be re-
"moved, saith the Lord that hath mercy
"on thee."—"Behold I have created the
"smith that bloweth the coals in the fire,
"and that bringeth forth an instrument for
"his work; and I have created the waster
"to destroy: no weapon that is formed
"against thee shall prosper, and every
"tongue that shall rise against thee in judg-
"ment thou shalt condemn; this is the heri-
"tage of the servants of the Lord, and their
"righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

6 mo. 22.—'Very weak in body, but the soul renewedly strengthened and made happy: Praise, praise, glory and gratitude ever be its return, which every moment calls for.'

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7 mo. 3.—'What must be the joys of heaven when I am so happy on earth. I hope soon to be there. Oh! happy moment, happy will it be! Praise, high praise and glory be thine for evermore, my beloved Immanuel, who art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises. Oh! mayest thou become the praise and the glory of the whole earth, my adored Redeemer. Of all that come unto thee in faith and true belief, seeking salvation, none wilt thou refuse; a good, gracious and merciful Saviour, for ever good thou art: may thy blessed work prosper in every heart, and thy holy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Thy service is truly pleasant, delightful it is to obey thy sweet voice, no comfort equal to it: my Heavenly Father thou hast been and continues a true comforter to me; thy pure unerring will and good time, demand in justice a long, patient, quiet waiting: better art thou than thousands of worlds: I have none in heaven but thee, nor in the earth that I desire in comparison of thee. Thou, my adored, will keep

me patient to thy own good hour. Blessed be thy holy name now and forever, no cross, suffering, or affliction whatever dispensed, too great, nothing too near or too dear to resign for the sake of that powerful, good hand, which has subjected my impure will.

'I would call the attention of my friends of every age to a serious reading and frequent recurrence to the truths contained in the Epistle of the London Yearly Meeting, [1821] which I am favoured to peruse, over and over, with thankful satisfaction; believing that the Lord has yet a scattered remnant preserved, zealous of good works, endeavouring to discharge their allotted duties in faithfulness, supporting his precious law and testimony, not ashamed of the religion of Jesus Christ. I humbly trust that the faithful number may increase. Feeling warmly interested in the affairs of the Church, strong desires attend me that the great Lord of the harvest may please to send forth labourers into his plentiful harvest, that all breaches and waste places may be repaired and filled up, to the glory and praise of our God, to whom alone any honour is due. Let not one heart rob him of his due, by ascribing the least merit to the creature, that should ever be abased as in dust and ashes. Oh! that I could enlist numbers into Immanuel's service, under whose banner suffering is joy-

ous; my soul craves a flocking to the house of the Lord, as of doves to their windows; that they may come from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, to join themselves to the only God of their salvation.

'Parents, every where, seek to walk in the light, keeping a single eye to the Lord, desiring his gracious aid, that you may act as faithful good stewards over the part of his heritage entrusted to your care; thus each finally receive the blessed sentence of "well "done thou good and faithful servant, en- "ter thou into the joy of thy Lord." May the faithful in all classes, of every religious persuasion through the globe, be preserved, and the backsliders return and repent of their outsteppings, fully aware of the perilous state into which Satan plunges the unwatchful mind. Oh! return, return, in sincerity, all transgressors, high and low, rich and poor, I entreat you; serve your God, and he will forgive you, who hath said, "joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that "repenteth, more than over ninety and nine "just persons that need no repentance." Pray not, as did the self-righteous Pharisee, but in contrition and humility, like the Publican, self-condemned, who smote his breast and said, "God be merciful to me a sinner;" by which he was more justified than the

other; as said our blessed Lord, "whoso-
"ever exalteth himself shall be abased, and
"he that humbleth himself shall be exalt-
"ed."

'Oh! the peace and joy which flow from doing any thing acceptable in the Divine sight. I dare not even write a line in my own will or time.—Happy state! true subjection of human nature! entire resignation to the only refiner of hearts, who through various trying baptisms, necessary to effect the important, awful work of our redemption, thus bends the corrupt will. This great work should not be delayed or trifled with by us, poor finite mortals. Oh! it is deeply interesting, and blessed to such as patiently abide its chastening influence. When I look to futurity, all is joy, pure, unmixed joy. Sweet death, thou art not to alarm me, end of my sufferings, crowning all hopes!

'Oh! that I could warn or induce all my associates to separate from every thing contrary to a happy immortality—no longer to serve this world, but serve their only Saviour—in time of health yield unreservedly your wills to the convictions and unerring guidance of the Spirit of Truth, ever leading in the simple strait path to eternal life.'

Soon after the foregoing was written, Margaret Jackson ceased to use her pen. She continued for more than six months without much apparent change, and in the full possession of her mental faculties, though unable to utter a word; her bodily strength was worn down almost to the last extremity, yet under these trying circumstances she betrayed not the least impatience; the tranquillity of her demeanour and sweetness of her countenance were remarkable, and evidenced that all within was peace.

A brief record of the circumstances immediately preceding her release from the bonds of mortality, was preserved by those who attended on her:—

1822, 1 mo. 30.—This day she was attacked with a violent pain, which lasted several hours: the night was a memorable one, wherein the long-suspended faculty of speech was restored to her, to the astonishment of the attendant who was sitting up with her. About eleven o'clock she raised her voice in prayer, after being eight months deprived of the power of articulation,—on being asked if she wished her sister, who was in a delicate state of health, to be called up, she said she would not have her disturbed, for she was convinced she could speak to her in the morning.

31st.—On her sister going into the room, she said to her, "My astonishment was "great to find my tongue so suddenly loos-"ened, as the minute before I spoke I do "not think I could have articulated a word;" —and compared herself to Zacharias in the temple at the time that John the Baptist was presented before him. She also said, that during the eight months she was silent, she enjoyed unutterable happiness. Most of her conversation this day consisted of inquiries after her friends, and desiring that her love might be given to all, both in and out of the society. She was much tried during the day with restlessness, and said, she hoped soon to be where she should hear and join in the song of Moses and of the Lamb, where the morning stars sing together, and the sons of God shout for joy. She dwelt much on the inconsistencies in dress and behaviour that prevail in the society, and said, she thought she could scarcely then bear to see a fashionably dressed person.

2 mo. 1.—In the afternoon she expressed a wish that her sister should take her supper, for the last time, in her room: she conversed on various subjects till a late hour.

5th.—This day she was again attacked with the same extreme pain, which, she re-

marked, was no common pain. She prayed in the most animated and feeling manner, that if consistent with the Divine will, she might quickly be released from all her sufferings; but she had no doubt all would yet be well.

15th.—From the foregoing to this date, she continued to suffer much pain at times: —this day she is lying quite still, and seems to take but little notice of the objects about her:—her breathing is much affected.

16th.—Through most part of last night her breathing continued to grow weaker, until about ten minutes before eight o'clock this morning, when it ceased—and we reverently believe, her purified, happy spirit, took its flight to the realms of everlasting rest and peace.

THE END.

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